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HAM GRADING STANDARDS*

| EXTERNAL FACTORS | Fancy | Choice | Good | Commercial | Utility |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|--|--|
| WEIGHT | 12 to 18 lbs. incl. | 10 to 20 lbs. incl. | Any weight | Any weight | Any weight |
| TRIM | Very smoothly trimmed; med; Shank cut off through hock joint; Long country style cut with butt end protected; Some fat covering over all of lean face; top of aitch bone left on; Unskinned. | Smoothly trimmed; Shank cut off through or close to hock joint; Long country style cut with butt end protected; Some fat covering over most of lean face; Unskinned. | Moderately well trimmed; Slightly defaced; Either style trim; Unskinned. | Roughly trimmed; Moderately defaced; Unskinned. | Very roughly trimmed; Greatly defaced; Skinned hams will be placed in this grade. |
| SHAPE | Cushion-Very thick and wide in pro- portion to length; Shank-Short, very plump and meaty. | Cushion-Thick and wide in proportion to length; Shank-Fairly short, plump and meaty. | Cushion-Fairly thick and wide in pro- portion to length; Shank-Med. length, fairly plump and meaty. | Cushion-Comparative- ly flat and narrow, lacking meatiness. Shank-Med. to long in length. | Cushion-Very flat and narrow. Shank-Long and bare. |
| FINISH | Moderate finish in proportion to lean on sides and butt. | Fairly moderate finish in proportion to lean on sides and butt. | Overfat or under- finished in pro- portion to lean. | Very high ratio of fat to lean; Wasty. | Thin and stringy. |
| QUALITY | Sound in every respect; Desirable and pleasing odor; Firm but not over dried; Entirely free of salt burn. | Sound in every respect; Free from undesirable odor; Firm; Only trace of surface salt permitted. | Reasonably sound; No pronounced un- desirable odor; Lacking in firmness; Moderately salt burned. | Fairly sound, Soft or somewhat over- dried. Excess sur- face salt and burn. No pronounced un- desirable odor. | Overdried or very soft; Pronounced salt burns; Un- desirable odor but free from spoilage. |
| OVERALL APPEARANCE | Even, light brown, hardwood smoke color; Bright and attract- ive; Free of bruises miscuts and other blemishes. | Attractive brown hardwood smoke color; Free of bruises, miscuts and other blemishes. | Varying shades of hardwood smoke color permitted; Fairly attractive; Fairly free of miscuts and other blemishes; Free of bruises. | Smoke color either streaked or sooty in appearance; dull and rather un- attractive; Moderate miscuts and blemish- es permitted. Fairly free of bruises. | Unsmoked or treated with liquid smoke; Very unattractive in appearance; Pronounced miscuts and bruises and blemishes will fall into this grade. |

*Developed by Georgia Agricultural Extension Service.



